## FUNtoFEM: A Framework for High-Fidelity Aeroelastic Analysis and Design



LaRC/Northrop Grumman TIM May 10, 2019





## NASA CFD 2030 Vision [1]

- Outlines what the state-of-the-art CFD should be by 2030
- Grand Challenge Problem #3:
  - Multidisciplinary analysis and design (MDAO) of a highly flexible advanced aircraft configuration
  - Goal: demonstrate the ability to perform CFD-based system level optimization of an advanced configuration that requires both steady and unsteady high-fidelity models
  - "... including explicit aeroelastic constraints that may require a time-accurate CFD approach"
- One of the major impediments to MDAO is the "lack of sensitivity information for optimization and uncertainty quantification"



[1] J. Slotnick, A. Khodadoust, J. Alonso, D. Darmofal, W. Gropp, E. Lurie, and D. Mavriplis, "CFD Vision 2030 Study: a Path to Revolutionary Computational Aerosciences," NASA, Tech. Rep. CR-2014-218178, 2024.





- Traditionally, aeroelastic analysis with FUN3D done in two ways:
  - 1. Transfer of loads and displacements to external structures code through file I/O
  - 2. Incorporate structural solver into FUN3D 'nodet' executable
    - Internal modal structural solver
    - Solver specific interfaces for rotorcraft analysis (Dymore, CAMRAD, RCAS)
- Difficult to maintain all those interfaces
- General aeroelastic interface added to FUN3D:
  - Treat FUN3D as a component in the multidisciplinary analysis rather than the driver
  - Set surface node displacements and/or rigid transform matrices
  - Get surface forces
- FUNtoFEM more general coupling of FUN(3D) to FEM
  - Python-based aeroelastic driver steady and time accurate analysis
  - FEM-based aeroelastic analysis and adjoint-based optimization





- Types of mesh motion:
  - 'deform' mesh motion:
    - Linear elasticity model displaces volume mesh nodes

$$\mathbf{x}_{A0} + \mathbf{u}_A - \mathbf{\hat{x}}_A - \mathbf{K}_G(\mathbf{x}_G - \mathbf{\hat{x}}_G) = 0$$

- 'rigid' mesh motion:
  - Transformation matrix moves the volume mesh

 $\left(\begin{array}{ccccc} R_{11} & R_{12} & R_{13} & t_1 \\ R_{21} & R_{22} & R_{23} & t_2 \\ R_{31} & R_{32} & R_{33} & t_3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array}\right) \left[\begin{array}{c} x_0 \\ y_0 \\ z_0 \\ 1 \end{array}\right]$ 

- 'rigid+deform' motion:
  - Reduce amplitude of deformation
  - Combine with overset meshes
    - Large relative motion











### **Aeroelastic Python interface**

- Body motion input
  - Rigid transform
  - Surface deformation
- Force integration and extraction
  - Pressure and skin friction forces
- Corresponding adjoint interfaces
  - Limited to compressible path
  - no skin friction
- Not required to use FUNtoFEM to utilize this interface

flow = Flow()
flow.initialize\_project()
flow.initialize\_data()
flow.initialize\_grid()
flow.initialize\_solution()

#### 

num\_nodes = flow.extract\_surface\_num(body=ibody)
x,y,z = flow.extract\_surface(num\_nodes,body=ibody)







- Transfer schemes for load and displacement transfers
- Python-based aeroelastic driver for analysis and optimization
  - Steady and time-domain aeroelasticity
  - Multibody and multipoint optimization
  - Adjoint-based sensitivities
    - Of any function defined in the disciplinary solvers
    - With respect to any design variable defined in the disciplinary solvers
    - With respect to shape/planform variables that affect structures and aerodynamics





- Matching-based Extrapolation of Loads and Displacements (MELD)
  - Displacement Transfer
    - Attach each aerodynamic node to weighted centroid of N nearest structural nodes
    - Least-squares problem for best fit motion of the structural nodes
    - Discretization independent
  - Load Transfer
    - Principle of virtual work







- Motion decomposition (rigid+deform motion)
  - Rigid motion extraction:
    - Utilize best fit motion (least-squares) kernel from MELD
  - Elastic motion extraction:
    - Local frame deformation

 $\mathbf{u}_{A*} = \mathbf{T}^{-1}(\mathbf{x}_{A0} + \mathbf{u}_A - \mathbf{T}\mathbf{x}_{A0})$ 







- Modularity swap out disciplinary components, shape parameterization, transfer schemes
  - FUN3D+TACS (FEM)
  - FUN3D+modal solver
  - CART3D+TACS
  - CART3D+modal solver
  - SU2+TACS
- In-core data transfer
- MPI-based parallelism







#### Nonlinear block Gauss-Seidel Algorithm













## Nonlinear block Gauss-Seidel Algorithm







#### Steady:

	Structural Thickness	Angle of Attack	Shape Variable
Lift Adjoint	-0.000691483665 <b>24</b>	30.56134974174 <b>8</b>	6.35712700809 <b>78</b>
Lift Complex	-0.000691483665 <b>10</b>	30.56134974174 <b>9</b>	6.35712700809 <b>67</b>
KS Failure Adjoint	-1.51378296 <b>92</b> ×10 <sup>-5</sup>	0.0085284874047 <b>5</b>	0.0074682888033 <b>8</b>
KS Failure Complex	-1.51378296 <b>85</b> ×10 <sup>-5</sup>	0.0085284874047 <b>9</b>	0.0074682888033 <b>7</b>

#### **Time-accurate:**

	Structural Thickness	Angle of Attack	Shape Variable
Lift Adjoint: Lift Complex:	$\begin{array}{l} 8.28439764813 \times 10^{-7} \\ 8.28439764814 \times 10^{-7} \end{array}$	$7.83592732405 \times 10^{-6} \\ 7.83592732405 \times 10^{-6}$	$\begin{array}{l} 2.409236730\textbf{43}\times10^{-5}\\ 2.409236730\textbf{25}\times10^{-5} \end{array}$
KS Failure Adjoint: KS Failure Complex:	-0.0306817554094 -0.0306817554094	$\begin{array}{c} 1.34592942323 \times 10^{-7} \\ 1.34592942323 \times 10^{-7} \end{array}$	$-1.29787578524 \times 10^{-3}$ $-1.29787578524 \times 10^{-3}$



2.38



- Flutter constraints
  - Automated damping calculation
  - Sensitivity of damping w.r.t. design variables and flow conditions

- Gust-response constraints
  - Field-velocity method for gust modeling







- Aeroelastic version of the NASA Common Research Model (CRM)
  - Representative of transonic commercial transport aircraft
  - Reverse engineered jig shape OML and wingbox to match the original CRM [1]
- Wingbox:
  - Ribs
  - Leading and trailing edge spars
  - Upper and lower skins





[1] G. Kenway, G. Kennedy, and J. Martins, "Aerostructural Optimization of the Common Research Model Configuration," in 15th AIAA/ISSMO Multidisciplinary Analysis and Optimization Conference, American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, 2014



## uCRM Optimizations



- Maneuver-constrained takeoff gross weight (TOGW) minimization
  - Stress constraint 2.5 G pullup maneuver constraint (steady analysis)
  - Analysis 2 steady
- Gust-constrained mass minimization:
  - Stress constraint cruise gust constraint
  - Analysis 1 time-domain





## **Computational Model:**

- Cruise:
  - *M*<sub>∞</sub>=0.85
  - *h* = 35,000 ft
- Maneuver:
  - 2.5G symmetric pull-up
  - *M*<sub>∞</sub>=0.86
  - *h* = 20,000 ft
- FUN3D:
  - Euler and RANS (SA), compressible
  - Euler 60,742 nodes
  - RANS 412,910 nodes
- TACS:
  - 10,584 linear shell elements

## **Design Problem:**

- Design variables (321):
  - Structural panel thicknesses (240)
  - Angle of attack (2)
  - Twist (9) and Camber (70)
- Objective:
  - Minimize *TOGW* = f (*empty weight*, *L/D*)
- Constraint:
  - 1.5 KS(maneuver stress) < 1
  - Cruise: L = W
  - Maneuver: L = 2.5 W





### uCRM – TOGW Minimization

















## **Computational Model:**

- Assumed Conditions:
  - $M_{\infty}=0.85, AOA=5^{\circ}$
  - *h* = 35,000 ft
- Gust model:
  - 500 time steps
  - $F_g = 0.95$
  - H = 30 ft
- FUN3D:
  - Euler and RANS compressible
  - Same meshes as TOGW minimization
  - BDF2opt integration
- TACS:
  - Same mesh as TOGW minimization
  - BDF2 integration

## **Design Problem:**

- Design variables:
  - Structural panel thicknesses (240)
- Objective:
  - Minimize *mass*
- Constraint:
  - 1.5\**KS*(*stress ratio*) < 1

## **Computational Cost:**

- Euler (80 cores):
  - Forward: 12 min
  - Adjoint: 20 min
- RANS (240 cores):
  - Forward: 40 min
  - Adjoint: 130 min



## uCRM – Mass Minimization





Squares with solid lines – mass, triangles with dashed lines - KS







**Optimized Wingboxes** 



## uCRM – Mass Minimization





**RANS** Optimization





- FUN3D modifications
  - Added a more general aeroelastic interface to the Python extension module
- FUNtoFEM
  - Load and displacement transfer
  - Python-based driver for aeroelastic analysis and optimization
    - Steady and time-domain coupling

## **Current/Future Work:**

- Integration of FUNtoFEM with OpenMDAO
- Frequency domain analysis for more efficient CFD-based flutter constraints





#### **Publications:**

- K. Jacobson, J. Kiviaho, G. Kennedy, M. Smith, "Evaluation of Time-accurate Damping Identification Methods for Flutter-constrained Optimization" Journal of Fluids and Structures, May 2019.
- R. Biedron, K. Jacobson, W. Jones, S. Massey E. Nielsen, B. Kleb, and X. Zhang. "Sensitivity Analysis for Multidisciplinary Systems (SAMS)" September 2018, NASA/TM–2018-220089.
- J. Kiviaho, K. Jacobson, M. Smith, and G. Kennedy, "A Robust and Flexible Coupling Framework for Aeroelastic Analysis and Optimization," AIAA Aviation, Denver, Colorado, June 2017.
- K. Jacobson, J. Kiviaho, M. Smith, and G. Kennedy, "An Aeroelastic Coupling Framework for Time-Accurate Aeroelastic Analysis and Optimization," AIAA SciTech, Kissimmee, Florida, January 2018.
- J. Kiviaho, K. Jacobson, M. Smith, and G. Kennedy, "Application of a Time-Accurate Aeroelastic Coupling" Framework to Flutter-Constrained Design Optimization," AIAA Aviation, Atlanta, Georgia, June 2018.
- K. Jacobson, J. Kiviaho, G. Kennedy, S. Massey, "A Framework for High-Fidelity Unsteady Aeroelastic Analysis and Design," AIAA Aviation (presentation only), Atlanta, Georgia, June 2018

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- High-fidelity aeroelastic models
  - High computational cost
  - $O(10^2-10^4)$  design variables
- Gradient-free methods:
  - Global optimum
  - Scale poorly with # of design variables
- Gradient-based methods:
  - Local optimum
  - Better scaling w.r.t. # of design variables
  - Gradient calculation:
    - Finite-difference or tangent method:
      - *O(n)* w.r.t. # of design variables
      - Essentially independent of # of functions of interest
    - Adjoint method:
      - Essentially independent of # of design variables
      - O(n) w.r.t. # of functions of interest







- 1. Solve the discretized governing equations and evaluate the function
- 2. Solve the adjoint equations
  - Linear system
  - Reverses the propagation of information
- 3. Assemble the gradient from the adjoint solution







- Structural FEM from Graeme Kennedy's SMDO Lab at Georgia Tech
- Open-source code
- Elements for geometrically linear/nonlinear analysis
- Flexible multibody dynamics
- Hand-coded discrete adjoint









- NASA Langley shape parameterization tool
  - Based on free-form deformation (soft object animation)
  - Variables are based on standard wing design concepts
    - Camber, thickness, twist, planform coordinates
  - Parameterize aerodynamic surface and structural meshes
  - Given shape design variables:
    - Returns updated aerodynamic surface and structure meshes
    - Returns design velocities (coordinate sensitivities)





X

5

**N** 4.5









### **Time-accurate Coupling - Sensitivities**





• Derivative w.r.t. aerodynamic design variable:

$$\frac{df}{d\mathbf{x}} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{x}} + \sum_{k=1}^{N} \left[ \left( \psi_{A}^{(k)} \right)^{T} \frac{\partial A^{(k)}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \right] + \left( \psi_{A}^{(0)} \right)^{T} \frac{\partial A^{(0)}}{\partial \mathbf{x}}$$

Accumulate during reverse time marching



#### Shape Sensitivities





- Aerodynamic surface coordinates,  $\mathbf{x}_{A,0}$
- Structural coordinates,  $\mathbf{x}_{S,0}$
- Combine with design velocities using the chain rule:

$$\frac{df}{d\mathbf{x}} = \left\{ \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{x}_{A,0}} + \sum_{k=1}^{N} \left[ \left( \boldsymbol{\psi}_{D}^{(k)} \right)^{T} \frac{\partial \mathbf{D}^{(k)}}{\partial \mathbf{x}_{A,0}} + \left( \boldsymbol{\psi}_{R}^{(k)} \right)^{T} \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}^{(k)}}{\partial \mathbf{x}_{A,0}} + \left( \boldsymbol{\psi}_{E}^{(k)} \right)^{T} \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}^{(k)}}{\partial \mathbf{x}_{A,0}} \right. \\ \left. + \left( \boldsymbol{\psi}_{L}^{(k)} \right)^{T} \frac{\partial \mathbf{L}^{(k)}}{\partial \mathbf{x}_{A,0}} + \left( \boldsymbol{\psi}_{G}^{(k)} \right)^{T} \frac{\partial \mathbf{G}^{(k)}}{\partial \mathbf{x}_{A,0}} \right] + \left( \boldsymbol{\psi}_{G}^{(0)} \right)^{T} \frac{\partial \mathbf{G}^{(0)}}{\partial \mathbf{x}_{A,0}} \right\} \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}_{A,0}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \\ \left. + \left\{ \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{x}_{S,0}} + \sum_{k=1}^{N} \left[ \left( \boldsymbol{\psi}_{D}^{(k)} \right)^{T} \frac{\partial \mathbf{D}^{(k)}}{\partial \mathbf{x}_{S,0}} + \left( \boldsymbol{\psi}_{L}^{(k)} \right)^{T} \frac{\partial \mathbf{L}^{(k)}}{\partial \mathbf{x}_{S,0}} + \left( \boldsymbol{\psi}_{S}^{(k)} \right)^{T} \frac{\partial \mathbf{S}^{(k)}}{\partial \mathbf{x}_{S,0}} \right] + \left( \boldsymbol{\psi}_{S}^{(0)} \right)^{T} \frac{\partial \mathbf{S}^{(0)}}{\partial \mathbf{x}_{S,0}} \right\} \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}_{S,0}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \right\} \right\}$$



### Types of Flutter Constraints



## **Flutter Clearance**

- Constraint:
  - At  $q_f$ :  $\zeta_{\min} \geq \zeta_0$
- Similar to flutter flight testing

## **Flutter Identification**

- Additional design variable:  $q_{flutter}$
- Constraints:
  - At  $q_{flutter}$ :  $\zeta_{\min} = 0$
  - $q_{flutter} > 1.15 q_{flight}$
- Gets the exact flutter conditions
- Need damping and its sensitivity regardless of constraint type







• Prony series with noise term:

$$z_n = \sum_{k=1}^M c_k e^{s_k n} + w(n)$$

• Complex exponent:

$$s_k = (\alpha_k + i\omega_k)\Delta t$$

• Damping ratio:



#### **Solution Process:**

1. Form the Hankel Matrix

	y1	У2		УL	$y_{L+1}$
<b>V</b> —	<i>y</i> 2	У3	•••	$\mathcal{Y}_{L+1}$	YL+2
1 —	:	:	·.	÷	
	$y_{N-L}$	$\mathcal{Y}_{N-L+1}$		$\mathcal{Y}_{N-1}$	УN _

- 2. Singular Value Decomposition (SVD) of the Hankel Matrix
  - Filter by singular values



- Form reduced system from remaining singular vectors
- 3. Eigenvalues of reduced system are  $s_k$





• Flutter identification constraint based on minimum damping:

$$\sigma_{min} = 0 \qquad \Rightarrow \qquad \alpha_{max} = 0$$

- Kreisselmeier-Steinhauser (KS) function
  - Differentiable approximation of the maximum exponential coefficient

$$\alpha_{max} \approx m + \frac{\ln\left[\sum_{k=1}^{M} e^{\rho(\alpha_k - m)}\right]}{\rho}$$

Single adjoint solution for any number of modes and frequencies





## **Computational Model:**

- $M_{\infty}$  range: 0.499 to 1.141
- 6,000 time steps
- Structural modes excited at 125 steps
- Matrix pencil method over last 3,000 steps
- FUN3D
  - Euler, compressible simulation
  - BDF2opt integration
  - 446,584 nodes
- Modal structure (Python)
  - First 4 modes
  - BDF2 time integration

## **Design Problem:**

- Design variables:
  - Dynamic pressure, q
- Objective:
  - Minimize q
- Constraints:
  - $\zeta_{KS} = 0$









- Converged to within 0.1 psf in 4-7 design cycles
- Coarse mesh and time step still captures the important trends



# AB

### Sensitivity to initial guess for dynamic pressure:



- In a real optimization, you have the additional constraint  $q_{flutter} > 1.15 q_{flight}$
- Frequency domain methods may be more practical
  - Take advantage of periodic nature
  - Eliminate need for damping system identification





## Field Velocity Method:

Gust created by modifying the grid velocity:

$$\dot{x}\hat{i} + \dot{y}\hat{j} + \dot{z}\hat{k} = (\dot{x}_0 - u_g)\,\hat{i} + (\dot{y}_0 - v_g)\,\hat{j} + (\dot{z}_0 - w_g)\,\hat{k}$$

- Only changes velocities, not the displacements
- Not applied to surface nodes
- Gusts propagate with the freestream velocity
- Gust profile created from superposition of sines, cosines, 1-cosines, and gaussian pulses
  - options to set amplitude, frequency, start time, etc.
  - Profile is uniform in planes normal to direction of propagation

Sensitivities verification with gust model:

	Structural Thickness	Angle of Attack	Shape Variable
Lift Adjoint	-2.6070143486 <b>5</b> e-05	0.00456874796182	-0.000711916380 <b>269</b>
Lift Complex	-2.6070143486 <b>6</b> e-05	0.00456874796182	-0.000711916380 <b>507</b>



1

0.8

<sup>0.6</sup> ۱/۱

0.4

0.2

0

0.2



- FAA Advisory Circular for gust load certification:
  - Continuous gust long duration turbulence encounters
  - Discrete gusts single extreme turbulence event
    - 1 cosine profile
    - Gust lengths from *H*=30 ft to 350 ft

<sup>0.4</sup> t/T

Discrete gust profile

0.6

0.8

• Gust magnitude is related to aircraft weight and altitude,  $U_{rof} \approx 20-56 \ ft/s$ 

$$U_{ds} = U_{ref} F_g \left(\frac{H}{350}\right)^{1/6}$$





#### **Computational Model:**

- Assumed Conditions:
  - $M_{\infty}=0.8, AOA=0^{\circ}$
  - *h* = 30,000 ft
- Gust model:
  - 1000 time steps
    - 50 steps to establish the flow field
    - ~5 gust periods
  - $F_g = 0.95$
  - *H*<sup>°</sup> = 30 ft
- FUN3D:
  - Euler, compressible simulation
  - BDF2opt integration
  - 35,109 nodes
- Structure (Python):
  - Mass + vertical displacement spring
  - BDF2 integrator

## **Design Problem:**

• Design variables:

k

- Objective:
  - Min k
- Constraints:







#### Gust Demonstration – NACA 64A010











• We have the function of interest, f(x, q(x)), and we want the sensitivities:

$$\frac{df}{d\mathbf{x}} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{x}} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{q}} \frac{\partial \mathbf{q}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \qquad (1)$$

• The state vector, q, is governed by the residual, R(x,q(x))=0:

$$\frac{d\mathbf{R}}{d\mathbf{x}} = \frac{\partial\mathbf{R}}{\partial\mathbf{x}} + \left[\frac{\partial\mathbf{R}}{\partial\mathbf{q}}\right]\frac{\partial\mathbf{q}}{\partial\mathbf{x}} = 0$$

• Rearrange:

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{q}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = -\left[\frac{\partial \mathbf{R}}{\partial \mathbf{q}}\right]^{-1} \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}}{\partial \mathbf{x}}$$

• Plug into (1):

$$\frac{df}{d\mathbf{x}} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{x}} - \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{q}} \left[ \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}}{\partial \mathbf{q}} \right]^{-1} \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}}{\partial \mathbf{x}}$$





$$\frac{df}{d\mathbf{x}} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{x}} - \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{q}} \left[ \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}}{\partial \mathbf{q}} \right]^{-1} \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}}{\partial \mathbf{x}}$$

• Define the adjoint vector:

$$\boldsymbol{\psi}^{T} = -\frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{q}} \left[ \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}}{\partial \mathbf{q}} \right]^{-1}$$

• Substitute to get adjoint sensitivity expression:

$$\frac{df}{d\mathbf{x}} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{x}} + \boldsymbol{\psi}^T \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}}{\partial \mathbf{x}}$$

• Get the adjoint vector from the adjoint equations:

$$\left[\frac{\partial \mathbf{R}}{\partial \mathbf{q}}\right]^T \boldsymbol{\psi} = -\left[\frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{q}}\right]^T$$